

**Senior Advisory Committee  
January 15, 2013  
Town Hall, Old Town Road  
9:30 a.m.**

Present: Chair Gail Pierce, Sandra Kelly, Sandra Hopf, Betsey DeMaggio and Deborah Martin. Also present for the recording of minutes, was Millie McGinnes. Members Ann Henault, Linda Spak, Dorothy Graham and Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gail Pierce at 9:30 a.m.

**Approve Minutes of Meeting, December 18, 2012.**

Ms. DeMaggio moved to approve the minutes of December 18, 2012. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kelly and carried.

Ayes 5 (Pierce, Kelly, Hopf, DeMaggio, Martin)    Nays 0  
Absent 3 (Graham, Spak, Henault)

**Act on Annual Election of Officers**

Ms. Kelly moved to re-elect the current officers: Gail Pierce – Chair; Dorothy Graham – Vice Chair; and Sandra Kelly – Secretary. Ms. DeMaggio seconded the motion and it carried.

Ayes 5 (Pierce, Kelly, Hopf, DeMaggio, Martin)    Nays 0  
Absent 3 (Graham, Spak, Henault)

Ms. Pierce announced that she was not interested in serving as Chair beyond 2013, and asked the members to consider stepping up to the position in 2014.

**Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell's Report**

It was noted that Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell was on a much deserved vacation.

**a) Activities**

Ms. Kelly noted that she was hosting the Wednesday Walk while Ms. Mitchell was on vacation and that most other activities have been cancelled for the duration.

**b) Recruit Sponsors for Various Activities**

Ms. Pierce stated that Ms. Mitchell put in many hours over and above for what she is paid. She further stated that as Coordinator Ms. Mitchell should be organizing, designing and promoting programs, but should not be responsible to be present at every one. Ms. Pierce asked the Committee Members to take turns attending and hosting activities.

**c) Need for a Community Calendar – Meeting with BI Times**

Ms. Pierce explained that there was a meeting with the owners of the Block Island Times and they are working to design a calendar to include community-wide activities.

**Discuss and Act on Authorization to Grant Senior Coordinator Petty Cash**

Ms. Pierce moved to authorize the payment of \$150.00 from the Senior Advisory Committee funds for petty cash for the Senior Coordinator's use. Ms. Hopf seconded and the motion carried.

Ayes 5 (Pierce, Kelly, Hopf, DeMaggio, Martin) Nays 0

Absent 3 (Graham, Spak, Henault)

**Update, Discuss and Act on "Food Delivery Program"**

Ms. DeMaggio reported that the food delivery program was being run out of the Block Island Grocery on Mondays and Thursdays and there were two recipients at this time. The cost of the meal is \$6.99. The participants are paying \$5.00 per meal and the difference is being covered by a fund sponsored by an anonymous donor for such purpose. Ms. DeMaggio noted that she was making the deliveries and has two backup deliverers.

**Report on Meeting with BIED Group**

Ms. Pierce reported that she and Ms. Spak attended the meeting of BIED and other users of the Community Center. She explained that a new group is being established with the charge of running the Community Center – paying bills, maintaining the building, raising funds, scheduling the space, etc. She noted that the group will consist of appointees from BIED, Soup Group, Lunch Bunch, BI Early Learning Center, Senior Advisory Committee and the community.

**Affordable Care Act for Seniors**

**a) Article in the BI Times**

**b) Possibility of Hosting an Island-wide Informational Meeting**

It was noted that an article should be drafted for the Block Island Times regarding the Affordable Care Act and its affect on the senior population. It was additionally noted that Susan Carson is willing to come to the island to do a symposium in the spring regarding the same.

**Update on Heating Assistance Program**

Ms. Pierce reported that there was an article in the Block Island Times regarding the heating assistance program.

**Island wide notification systems.... identify and review various programs**

Ms. Pierce stated that she will put together a chart for next meeting showing other locations and the notification systems that they use.

**Block Island Bulletin Board**

**a) Update on Activity**

Ms. Kelly reported that the Bulletin Board is being monitored again. She noted that there were 220 members and 888 postings to date. She shared a thank you note for the creation of the Bulletin Board from a user.

**b) Discuss need and possible fees for computer person to help with the calendar**

Ms. Pierce stated that she has developed a calendar, but has had little success posting it on the Bulletin Board. Ms. Kelly will investigate the Google Calendar program.

### **Budget Update**

Ms. Kelly suggested that in the budget request, the committee specifically show what has been accomplished by the Senior Coordinator since the position inception in September. It was suggested that it clearly show the number of paid hours versus volunteer hours that the coordinator has put in.

Ms. Pierce moved to authorize the budget subcommittee to finalize and submit the budget request to the Town. Ms. DeMaggio seconded the motion and it carried.

Ayes 5 (Pierce, Kelly, Hopf, DeMaggio, Martin) Nays 0

Absent 3 (Graham, Spak, Henault)

### **Smoke and CO2 Detectors and FISH Involvement**

Ms. Pierce noted that smoke and CO2 detectors were available from the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fire Department. She questioned whether FISH was needed to help deliver and install. It was noted that the Fire Department was handling such.

Ms. Kelly suggested asking the Rescue Squad to hold a refresher course on the use of the defibrillator at the Community Center.

### **Next Meeting – February 19, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.**

At 10:32 a.m. a motion was made by Ms. Pierce and seconded by Ms. Kelly to adjourn and unanimously approved.

Millie McGinnes  
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved: February 5, 2013